



National Registration and Accreditation

The Council of Pharmacy Registering Authorities (COPRA) is pleased to announce its change of name to the **Australian Pharmacy Council**. The Pharmacy Council is the organisation of the registering authorities in each State and Territory.

The Australian Pharmacy Council provides leadership in developing and implementing nationally consistent policies, processes and approaches to pharmacy practice, regulation and registration. This includes accreditation of pharmacy schools, programs and continuing professional development; and assessment and examination of non Australian pharmacy graduates.

On 13 April 2007, the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) agreed on the arrangements for a new national system for the registration of health professionals and the accreditation of their training and education programs for implementation by July 2008. This is being prepared by the States and Territories through an Intergovernmental Agreement.

The date for release of the Agreement is unknown and much speculation exists as to the progress being made and whether the deadline for implementation has changed. The Australian Pharmacy Council, and the profession, awaits eagerly the implementation plan to be handed down by COAG

“These are both exciting and interesting times for the pharmacy profession”, said Mrs. Elizabeth Frost, President of the Australian Pharmacy Council “the Pharmacy Council has already created a national centralised system of accreditation, in addition we look forward to following through with national centralised registration of pharmacists.”

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